

# EREBOR

#1 Brian Lorber & Ken Halpern 1 September 1981

NEW 'ZINE IS BORN!!!!

Ken Halpern & Brian Lorber  
are proud to announce the birth of their  
brainchild

## EREBOR

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Welcome to Erebor, a postal Dipzine published monthly by Ken Halpern (11 Bellingham Lane, Great Neck, N.Y., 11023) and Brian Lorber (7 Polo Road, Great Neck, N.Y., 11023). Articles, subscription fees, and any other various and sundry items for EREBOR may be sent to either of the two addresses given above, at the sender's leisure. Anyone submitting an accepted article to EREBOR will receive two free issues per typed page of said article.

Because you are one of the first people reading this, our first issue, we bring to you a special offer; the first fourteen subscribers to EREBOR will receive a free game entry for DIPLOMACY with their subscription. If you decide to subscribe, send a preference list; you may be one of the privileged fourteen! The regular subscription fee for 10 issues of EREBOR is \$5.00, while the game entry fee is a paltry \$2.00, as well as the cost of the issues to be received while the game lasts. In addition to the 14 free game entries, a quiz for free issues & yet more free game entries will be given later in this issue.

Well then, to all those who will be joining us-Happy Stabbing!

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## VARIOUS VARIANTS

Here are some ways to mix wood (or plastic) with less than 7 people, or when Europe is at peace: Use the board to Avalon-Hill's popular MACHIAVELLI game (a hybrid of DIPLOMACY and KINGMAKER, in Renaissance Italy)-this will yield from 2 to 8 great powers! \* For 2 to 6 people-have each person make a preference list of all 7 countries, then leave out the least wanted countries-counting their centers as centers! Watch how strong little Italy becomes when no one is playing Austria! \* "No-talking" DIPLOMACY-very simply, no two (or more) players may communicate in any way regarding the game-of course, this betrays the whole premise of DIPLOMACY, but it's great fun! \* Use the board from Parker Brothers' RISK game, designating waterways and supply centers lightly in pencil, or, for those of you who like RISK itself, use the DIPLOMACY board with RISK pieces and rules! \* Use the board and rules to any of the various popular DIPLOMACY variants (e.g. Youngstown IV, Youngstown XIV, etc.), or even make your own - I personally have made an African DIP. variant - if playtesting by our GN gaming group finds it balanced, I may market it.

# SUBLIME TO RIDICULOUS - EREBOR QUIZ #1

Here is the quiz we promised you on the first page of this issue. Due to the extremely diverse nature of the questions in this quiz, prizes will be given to those who get the most correct answers, rather than the first people to get all the correct answers to this quiz. First prize is 10 free issues of EREBOR and one free game entry in same. Second, third, and fourth prizes are each free game entries. The latest date on which the answers to this quiz will be accepted is Tuesday, 24 September, 1981. Here we go!

1. What are all the words to the 3 different stanzas of "Eleanor Rigby" by the Beatles?
2. What is the official business name of the Detroit Tigers' baseball system?
3. Who succeeded Adolf Hitler as Fuehrer of the Third Reich?
4. What is the meaning of the following words, and in what language are they: "A Elbereth Gilthoniel"?
5. What was Mobil Oil worried that the government would do if Mobil had merged with Conoco, a smaller oil company that recently merged with DuPont Chemicals?
6. What important figure (Soviet) recently died of a heart attack at a ripe old age?
7. What company makes the F-14 plane? (Hint: They also make defective buses)
8. What jargon does the word "fartlek" belong to, and what does it mean?
9. What is the English meaning of the name of Dannon Yogurt's newest line of yogurt? (You'll have to find out what its name is first!)
10. What is the difference between a normal year and the equivalent of a leap year on the Hebrew calendar?
11. What game of intelligence is ancient Israel's King Solomon said to have invented?
12. How many "Oz" books did L. Frank Baum himself write?
13. What crime was punishable in the 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century U.S. by the branding of an "I" on the violator's cheek?

(continued on page 5)

POSTAL DIPLOMACY HOUSE RULES - EREBOR

- I. All the rules of Allan B. Calhamer's DIPLOMACY, as printed by Avalon Hill in the 1971 edition, will be used as far as practicality allows in postal play.
- II. Games in Erebor are open to all people in the U.S., Canada, and people with APO, FPO, or CPFO addresses. All monies must be remitted in U.S. currency.  
Choice of countries will decide country assignments. All people should send in preference lists with their entry fee. Subscription prices and game fees are listed elsewhere in this issue. In order to enter a game you must be a subber. If your sub runs out prior to the conclusion of your game, you must renew it or face being expelled from said game.
- III. Stand-by positions are available free to subbers; drop us a letter if you wish to be placed on the list.
- IV. Game deadlines will be published with the report of each game. In general, these deadlines will be about three weeks apart. The magazine, however, will be published monthly.
- V. In the case of a postal strike in the U.S., all games will be postponed until after the strike, when an update issue will be sent out with information and deadlines.  
A Canadian postal strike will merely suspend games with Canadian participants.  
WE TAKE NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FAILINGS OF THE UNITED STATES "POSTAL SERVICE!"!
- VI. Each submission of orders should include the game's assigned "Boardman Number", the name of the player's country, the season of the move, and the player's signature.
- VII. Any person found to be playing under a pseudonym will be immediately expelled from all Erebor games that person is in.
- VIII. In the case of a player missing his moves we offer "NMR Insurance". What this means is that we will call the player collect on the deadline date if he has not yet submitted moves. If, during the course of a game, a player never fails to submit moves, his money will be refunded at the conclusion of the game or upon the elimination of his country, whichever comes first. This service costs \$3.
- IX. If you wish to phone in orders please do so between the hours of 6:30-9:30pm on weekdays at Brian's house ((516) 829-8045). At Ken's house ((516) 466-9624), the hours are the same on weekdays as well as 9:00am-12:00pm on weekends. We will not accept orders phoned in outside of these times.

- X. Press releases found offensive by the gamesmasters will not be printed (basically this means racist and nazi-type press-Raunchy press, on the other hand, will be printed with relish!).
- XI. You are here to have fun. Ja Wohl!
- XII. The following abbreviations should be used with all submissions of orders to Erebor. Any orders out of this context will not be accepted.

|                 |      |                      |       |
|-----------------|------|----------------------|-------|
| Adriatic        | -Adr | Liverpool            | -Lpl  |
| Aegean          | -Aeg | Livonia              | -Lvn  |
| Albania         | -Alb | London               | -Lon  |
| Ankara          | -Ank |                      |       |
| Apulia          | -Apu | Marseilles           | -Mar  |
| Armenia         | -Arm | Mid-Atlantic Ocean   | -Mid  |
|                 |      | Moscow               | -Mos  |
| Baltic Sea      | -Bal | Munich               | -Mun  |
| Barents Sea     | -Bar |                      |       |
| Belgium         | -Bel | Naples               | -Nap  |
| Berlin          | -Ber | North Africa         | -NAf  |
| Black Sea       | -Bla | North Atlantic Ocean | -NAt  |
| Bohemia         | -Boh | North Sea            | -Nth  |
| Brest           | -Bre | Norway               | -Nwy  |
| Budapest        | -Bud | Norwegian Sea        | -Nrg  |
| Bulgaria        | -Bul |                      |       |
| Burgandy        | -Bur | Paris                | -Par  |
|                 |      | Picardy              | -Pic  |
| Clyde           | -Cly | Piedmont             | -Pie  |
| Constantinople  | -Con | Portugal             | -Por  |
|                 |      | Prussia              | -Pru  |
| Denmark         | -Den |                      |       |
|                 |      | Rome                 | -Rom  |
| Eastern Med.    | -Eas | Ruhr                 | -Ruh  |
| Edinburgh       | -Edi | Rumania              | -Rum  |
| English Channel | -Eng |                      |       |
|                 |      | Serbia               | -Ser  |
| Finland         | -Fin | Sevastopol           | -Sev  |
|                 |      | Silesia              | -Sil  |
| Galicia         | -Gal | Skagerrak            | -Ska  |
| Gascony         | -Gas | Smyrna               | -Smy  |
| Greece          | -Gre | Spain                | -Spa  |
| Gulf of Bothnia | -Bot | St. Petersburg       | -St.P |
| Gulf of Lyons   | -Lyo | Sweden               | -Swe  |
|                 |      | Syria                | -Syr  |
| Helgoland Bight | -Hel |                      |       |
| Holland         | -Hol | Trieste              | -Tri  |
|                 |      | Tunis                | -Tun  |
| Irish Sea       | -Iri | Tuscany              | -Tus  |
| Ionian Sea      | -Ion | Tyrolia              | -Trl  |
|                 |      | Tyrrhenian Sea       | -Tyn  |
| Kiel            | -Kie |                      |       |

Cont'd on page 5 bottom

## EREBOR QUIZ #1 (cont.)

14. What space's name in DIPLOMACY is also a color?

15. Who was the ironic inventor of TNT?

That's all folks!

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## O-RONDAR-IN-EREBOR

As this is the last page being typed for this issue, we know at the time of this typing how many people have already gotten free game entries for being **one** of our 1st fourteen subscribers. They are:

- |                   |   |                    |
|-------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. Glenn Nadaner  | & | 2. Michael Quirk   |
| 7 Glamford Rd.    |   | 3830 Chester Drive |
| Great Neck, N.Y., |   | Glenview, IL,      |
| 11023             |   | 60025              |

We would like to proffer our most special thanks to Dr. John Boardman, publisher of GRAUSTARK, and Bruce Schneier, publisher of INVASION, for plugging our struggling little enterprise in their more established 'zines, and for giving us some advice to help us get off the ground.

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## SILVER SCREEN

Appropriate to that reknowned Dwarven stronghold after which our humble newsletter is named, we of EREBOR rate movies, naturally, in mountains (1 to 4). Of course, there are always those flicks which are such turkeys (or should I say Austrias), that they do not deserve even one hill, much less mountain! For losers such as these, we give 1 to 4 craters, with 4 being the worst. For example, TARZAN, THE APE-MAN is a 4-crater movie. Here are some ratings of current movies:

RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK - A very fast-moving adventure-comedy, which vividly carries the viewer along with it-Han Solo in the 1940's, but great anyway!  
AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON - Two nice American boys get caught up in supernatural wierdness. Offbeat but effective mixture of horror and comedy. Very enjoyable!

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XII. (Continued from page 4)

|         |      |                       |      |
|---------|------|-----------------------|------|
| Ukraine | -Ukr | Wales                 | -Wal |
|         |      | Warsaw                | -War |
| Venice  | -Ven | Western Mediterranean | -Wes |
| Vienna  | -Vie |                       |      |
|         |      | Yorkshire             | -Yor |

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Sorry that this issue is but 6 pages long - future issues, after we get some games underway, will be 8 pages long!

## I.O.s MEET I.F.s AT CARROLL'S FOLLY

by Ken Halpern

I'm sure that most of us have heard the expression "Im-movable object meets irresistible force", and this concept was demonstrated richly at GenCon East, the wargame convention in Cherry Hill, N.J.(near fragrant Philadelphia) from July 23 to July 26, 1981.

Somewhat like the two cold war camps, Dr. John Boardman (publisher of GRAUSTARK), and a few allies, clashed with Bruce "Brux" Linsey (publisher of THE VOICE OF DOOM) and some of his "associates". Unlike most summit meetings, however, a lot of "ideas" were exchanged between the two sides. For example, who could hold back laughter, when Dr. Boardman sardonically awarded Sir Linsey of Doom, "Best Upper Slobovia" (or was it Mortenegro?) in the Diplomacy Tournament. Funnier yet, was the appearance of five Eric Ozog clones, each claiming sole identity, and all of whose existences were denied by said Dr. Boardman (Had your eyes checked lately, Johnny?).

As for Glen Taylor, the luminous director of the Diplomacy Tournament, Robert "Emphatic" Sacks, and countless others, they adopted the usual fence-straddling policy (a wise idea) - the only problem is, the grass is brown on both sides of the fence.

For the hobby of DIPLOMACY, these feuds aren't very diplomatic, but then, it would be so boring if people liked each other, wouldn't it?????

Anyway, it was great for us (Brian & I) to meet all of the leaders of the hobby for the first time, and we thank everybody for making it a fun experience (except for the Carroll tribe). Undoubtedly, we will return next year to aid and abet further fireworks. SEE Y'ALL THEN!!!

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We would like to give special thanks to Eric Kane for his assistance in typing and collating this all-important first issue.

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EREBOR #1

Brian Lorber & Ken Halpern  
7 Polo Road  
Great Neck, New York 11023  
U. S. A.

FIRST CLASS MAIL 113



✓ Sample  
# End of sub

ROD WALKER  
1273 CREST DR  
ENCINITAS, CA

92024